

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Office of Childhood
Office of Special Education

First Steps SPOE Data Quarterly Report

September 2025

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Database as of 9/20/2025

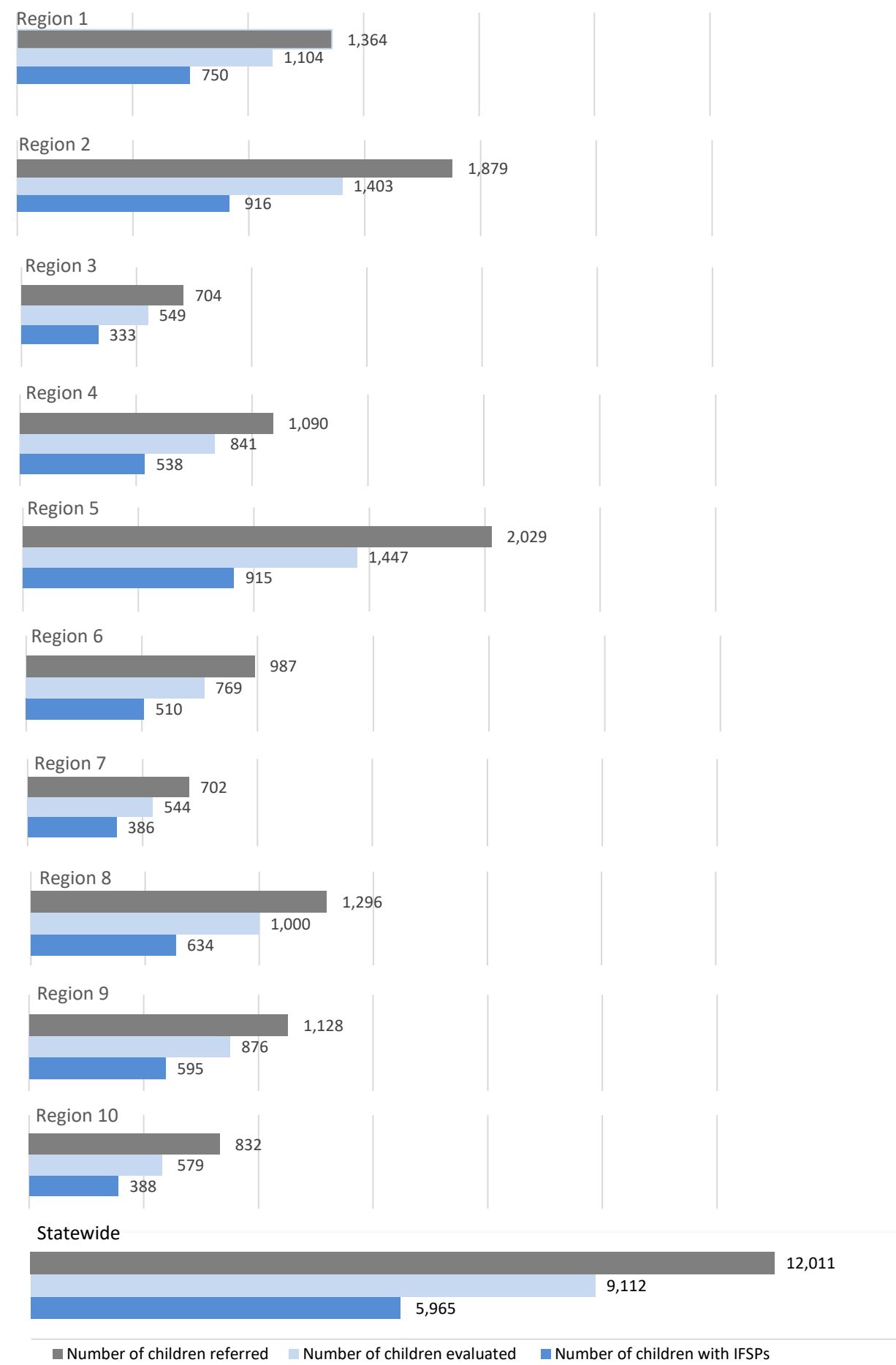
<https://dese.mo.gov/childhood/early-intervention/first-steps>

Number of Unduplicated Referrals, Number of Children Evaluated, and IFSP Unduplicated Referrals During Last 12 months (August 2024 to July 2025)

SPOE	Category	Number/Rate
Greater St. Louis (Reg. 1)	Number of children referred	1,364
	Number of children evaluated	1,104
	Number of children with IFSPs	750
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	67.9%
St. Louis County (Reg. 2)	Number of children referred	1,879
	Number of children evaluated	1,403
	Number of children with IFSPs	916
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	65.3%
Northeast (Reg. 3)	Number of children referred	704
	Number of children evaluated	549
	Number of children with IFSPs	333
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	60.7%
Northwest (Reg. 4)	Number of children referred	1,090
	Number of children evaluated	841
	Number of children with IFSPs	538
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	64.0%
Greater Kansas City (Reg. 5)	Number of children referred	2,029
	Number of children evaluated	1,447
	Number of children with IFSPs	915
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	63.2%
Central (Reg. 6)	Number of children referred	987
	Number of children evaluated	769
	Number of children with IFSPs	510
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	66.3%
Southwest (Reg. 7)	Number of children referred	702
	Number of children evaluated	544
	Number of children with IFSPs	386
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	71.0%
South Central (Reg. 8)	Number of children referred	1,296
	Number of children evaluated	1,000
	Number of children with IFSPs	634
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	63.4%
East Central (Reg. 9)	Number of children referred	1,128
	Number of children evaluated	876
	Number of children with IFSPs	595
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	67.9%
Southeast (Reg. 10)	Number of children referred	832
	Number of children evaluated	579
	Number of children with IFSPs	388
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	67.0%
Statewide	Number of children referred	12,011
	Number of children evaluated	9,112
	Number of children with IFSPs	5,965
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	65.5%

Referrals exclude "Inquiry Only" referrals.

Comparison of Number of Unduplicated Referrals, Children Evaluated, and Children with IFSPs by SPOE and Statewide



Primary Referral Sources and IFSP Eligibility Rates Over Last 12 Months

Referrals Include Multiple Referrals Per Child

SPOE	Medical Providers	Social Service Agencies	Early Childhood Programs	Parent
Greater St. Louis (Reg. 1)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	818	69	158	663
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	317	22	68	370
IFSP Rate	38.8%	31.9%	43.0%	55.8%
St. Louis County (Reg. 2)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	1,227	92	163	985
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	421	27	47	439
IFSP Rate	34.3%	29.3%	28.8%	44.6%
Northeast (Reg. 3)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	548	47	102	168
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	221	16	33	74
IFSP Rate	40.3%	34.0%	32.4%	44.0%
Northwest (Reg. 4)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	697	64	104	475
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	249	12	43	231
IFSP Rate	35.7%	18.8%	41.3%	48.6%
Greater Kansas City (Reg. 5)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	1,292	173	226	850
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	431	25	89	385
IFSP Rate	33.4%	14.5%	39.4%	45.3%
Central (Reg. 6)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	825	73	130	264
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	309	25	52	132
IFSP Rate	37.5%	34.2%	40.0%	50.0%
Southwest (Reg. 7)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	420	66	139	236
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	161	21	67	128
IFSP Rate	38.3%	31.8%	48.2%	54.2%
South Central (Reg. 8)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	799	178	251	408
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	307	37	98	201
IFSP Rate	38.4%	20.8%	39.0%	49.3%
East Central (Reg. 9)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	703	125	153	448
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	265	26	84	229
IFSP Rate	37.7%	20.8%	54.9%	51.1%
Southeast (Reg. 10)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	605	97	1,535	239
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	195	18	623	112
IFSP Rate	32.2%	18.6%	40.6%	46.9%
Grand Total - Primary Referrals (last 12 months)	7,934	984	1,535	4,736
Grand Total - Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	2,876	229	623	2,301
IFSP Rate for Each Referral Source	36.2%	23.3%	40.6%	48.6%
% by Source - Statewide	52.2%	6.5%	10.1%	31.2%

Referrals exclude "Inquiry Only" referrals.

IFSP counts are unduplicated

Medical Providers include Hospital (other than NICU), Physician (inc. Psych.), Other health care provider, Public Health Facilities/Providers, and NICU.

Social Service Agencies include DMH, DHSS, CAPTA, Homeless Family Shelters, Domestic Violence Shelters/Agencies, and Social Service Agency (inc Foster Care).

Early Childhood Programs include Parents as Teachers, Head Start/Early Head Start, Other LEA program, Child Care Program/Provider, and MSD/MSB.

Active Children with IFSPs by Primary Program Eligibility

		Dev. Delay - Half Age	Dev. Delay - ICO*	Medical Condition/Medical Condition - ICO*	Very Low Birth Weight	Total
Greater St. Louis (Reg.1)	Number	556	126	277	121	1,080
	Percent	51.5%	11.7%	24.5%	11.2%	100.0%
St. Louis County (Reg.2)	Number	823	148	242	202	1,415
	Percent	58.2%	10.5%	20.6%	14.3%	100.0%
Northeast (Reg.3)	Number	323	18	123	57	521
	Percent	62.0%	3.5%	31.9%	10.9%	100.0%
Northwest (Reg.4)	Number	498	32	135	32	697
	Percent	71.4%	4.6%	19.2%	4.6%	100.0%
Greater Kansas City (Reg.5)	Number	831	18	260	138	1,247
	Percent	66.6%	1.4%	22.0%	11.1%	100.0%
Central (Reg.6)	Number	511	27	179	90	807
	Percent	63.3%	3.3%	26.4%	11.2%	100.0%
Southwest (Reg.7)	Number	370	38	72	36	516
	Percent	71.7%	7.4%	18.0%	7.0%	100.0%
South Central (Reg.8)	Number	555	81	161	60	857
	Percent	64.8%	9.5%	19.0%	7.0%	100.0%
East Central (Reg.9)	Number	568	37	192	94	891
	Percent	63.7%	4.2%	24.1%	10.5%	100.0%
Southeast (Reg.10)	Number	435	16	119	54	624
	Percent	69.7%	2.6%	21.3%	8.7%	100.0%
Grand Total (Statewide)	Number	5,470	541	1,760	884	8,655
	Percent	63.2%	6.3%	20.3%	10.2%	100.0%

* Informed Clinical Opinion (ICO)

Active Children with IFSPs by Primary Setting*

		Home	Community Setting	Total Natural Environment Setting	Other**	Total
Greater St. Louis (Reg.1)	Number	931	133	1,064	4	1,068
	Percent	87.2%	12.5%	99.6%	0.4%	100.0%
St. Louis County (Reg.2)	Number	1,228	163	1,391	5	1,396
	Percent	88.0%	11.7%	99.6%	0.4%	100.0%
Northeast (Reg.3)	Number	464	57	521	0	521
	Percent	89.1%	10.9%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Northwest (Reg.4)	Number	625	65	690	0	690
	Percent	90.6%	9.4%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Greater Kansas City (Reg.5)	Number	1,150	79	1,229	1	1,230
	Percent	93.5%	6.4%	99.9%	0.1%	100.0%
Central (Reg.6)	Number	724	79	803	0	803
	Percent	90.2%	9.8%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Southwest (Reg.7)	Number	454	60	514	0	514
	Percent	88.3%	11.7%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
South Central (Reg.8)	Number	720	125	845	0	845
	Percent	85.2%	14.8%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
East Central (Reg.9)	Number	814	66	880	4	884
	Percent	92.1%	7.5%	99.5%	0.5%	100.0%
Southeast (Reg.10)	Number	543	81	624	0	624
	Percent	87.0%	13.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Grand Total (Statewide)	Number	7,653	908	8,561	14	8,575
	Percent	89.2%	10.6%	99.8%	0.2%	100.0%

*Does not include children with meetings in ongoing status.

** Other includes Special Purpose Center, Hospital, Residential Facility, and Service Provider Location.

Active Children with IFSPs Compared to SPOE Population by Race

	Greater St. Louis (Region 1)	St. Louis County (Region 2)	Northeast (Region 3)	Northwest (Region 4)	Greater Kansas City (Region 5)	Central (Region 6)	Southwest (Region 7)	South Central (Region 8)	East Central (Region 9)	Southeast (Region 10)	State Total
Total % of Pop	4.95%	4.63%	4.43%	3.50%	3.67%	4.39%	3.79%	3.71%	4.68%	4.42%	4.20%
Asian and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander*											
% of Pop.	4.52%	3.51%	6.12%	3.38%	2.19%	1.86%	1.36%	2.01%	2.76%	3.06%	3.09%
Black or African American**											
% of Pop.	5.77%	5.36%	5.36%	3.86%	3.65%	5.49%	4.36%	3.55%	6.18%	5.44%	4.83%
White											
% of Pop.	4.55%	4.20%	4.35%	3.45%	3.79%	4.27%	3.91%	3.76%	4.56%	4.25%	4.08%
Native American or Alaska Native											
% of Pop.	8.99%	5.78%	0.00%	1.72%	0.23%	1.18%	0.41%	3.50%	5.56%	2.08%	2.27%

*Census data (2023 US Census Estimates) combines race categories Asian & Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander.

**Children with two or more races are included in the Black percent of population.

Active Children with IFSPs Compared to SPOE Population by Ethnicity

	Greater St. Louis (Region 1)	St. Louis County (Region 2)	Northeast (Region 3)	Northwest (Region 4)	Greater Kansas City (Region 5)	Central (Region 6)	Southwest (Region 7)	South Central (Region 8)	East Central (Region 9)	Southeast (Region 10)	State Total
Hispanic/Latino											
Active Children	88	117	25	98	242	64	88	84	55	33	894
Under 3 Pop.	1,710	2,079	540	2,057	5,958	1,362	1,978	1,628	1,040	794	19,146
% of Pop.	5.15%	5.63%	4.63%	4.76%	4.06%	4.70%	4.45%	5.16%	5.29%	4.16%	4.67%
NOT Hispanic/Latino											
Active Children	992	1,298	496	599	1,005	743	428	773	836	591	7,761
Under 3 Pop.	20,091	28,507	11,221	17,847	28,031	17,005	11,651	21,429	18,014	13,338	187,134
% of Pop.	4.94%	4.55%	4.42%	3.36%	3.59%	4.37%	3.67%	3.61%	4.64%	4.43%	4.15%

Inactivations by Reason-Children Who Had an IFSP, Last 12 Months

SPOE	Child Deceased	Completion of IFSP	Moved Out of State	Parent Withdrawn/ Withdrawn due to FCP	Pt B Elig in Process	Pt B Inelig Exit to Other/Pt B Inelig Exit w/o Ref	Pt B Ref Refused Parent	Transition to Part B	Unable to Contact/ Locate	Grand Total
Greater St. Louis (Region 1)	0.6%	2.7%	4.9%	16.5%	3.3%	17.2%	7.2%	39.6%	8.0%	100.0%
St. Louis County (Region 2)	0.3%	2.8%	3.0%	11.5%	3.9%	14.1%	8.2%	46.0%	10.2%	100.0%
Northeast (Region 3)	1.0%	0.0%	2.7%	18.5%	5.4%	14.8%	10.1%	45.3%	2.3%	100.0%
Northwest (Region 4)	0.4%	1.7%	3.2%	26.5%	3.2%	9.1%	7.0%	45.5%	3.2%	100.0%
Greater Kansas City (Region 5)	0.3%	1.8%	5.4%	18.6%	1.4%	8.9%	8.1%	48.9%	6.6%	100.0%
Central (Region 6)	0.6%	0.4%	5.0%	20.7%	2.5%	15.5%	11.2%	37.9%	6.2%	100.0%
Southwest (Region 7)	0.0%	17.3%	4.6%	16.7%	3.3%	9.8%	10.1%	33.0%	5.2%	100.0%
South Central (Region 8)	0.2%	0.5%	3.4%	25.1%	3.6%	12.0%	12.2%	37.5%	5.4%	100.0%
East Central (Region 9)	0.4%	1.3%	5.8%	19.8%	1.3%	14.5%	10.9%	39.4%	6.6%	100.0%
Southeast (Region 10)	0.5%	1.1%	3.5%	22.6%	2.7%	19.1%	14.9%	30.1%	5.6%	100.0%
Statewide %	0.4%	2.5%	4.2%	18.9%	3.0%	13.4%	9.4%	41.6%	6.6%	100.0%

Percentage = Inactivation Reason/Total for each SPOE

Inactivations by Reason-Children Who Had an IFSP can include multiple enrollment periods for one child.